

Welcome

The LSPUF is an ADF&G facility that another agency, the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (State Parks), manages through a concessionaire.

Fees

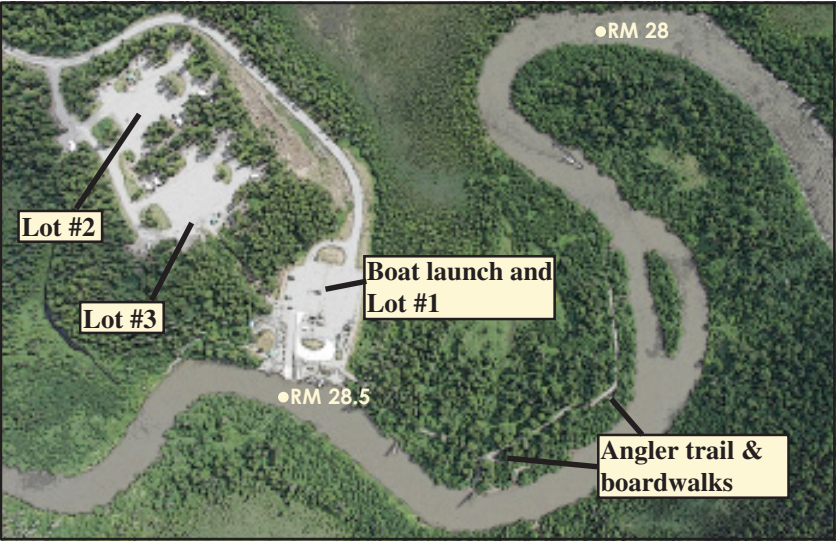
Because the LSPUF is owned by ADF&G, State Parks passes are not accepted.

Specific passes for the LSPUF are available from the volunteer campground host, the entrance station attendants, and the Matanuska-Susitna Area Office of State Parks, which is located at Mile 0.7 Bogard Road in Wasilla, Alaska. Call (907) 745-3975 for further information.

Susitna Flats State Game Refuge

The LSPUF is located within the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge, which is managed by ADF&G. The refuge was created to protect fish and wildlife habitat and populations, particularly waterfowl nesting, feeding and migration areas; moose calving areas; spring and fall bear feeding areas; and salmon spawning and rearing habitats. The state refuge also provides public uses of fish and wildlife and their habitats, particularly waterfowl, moose and bear hunting; wildlife viewing and photography; and general outdoor recreation in a high quality environment.

Perhaps the most spectacular feature of the refuge, and the prime reason for refuge status, is the spring and fall concentration of migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. By mid-May, as many as 100,000 waterfowl, including mallards, pintails, swans, sandhill cranes, and Canada geese, just to name a few, are present in the refuge.



PRIVATE DAY USE	
Camping .....	\$10 per night per vehicle.
Day Use Parking ....	\$5 per day per vehicle.
Boat Launching .....	\$10 per day per boat. Includes parking for one vehicle.
Unattached Trailer Parking .....	\$10 per day. Allowed only in Lots #2 or #3.
Dump Station.....	\$3 per use.
SEASON PASSES	
Camping .....	\$100 May 1 to Sept 30.
Day Use .....	\$75.00 per year.
Boat Launching .....	\$150 per year.
COMMERCIAL USE	
Commercial Use Fishing Guide ....	\$300 per guide per boat.
Commercial Use Camping .....	\$200 May 1 to Sept 30.

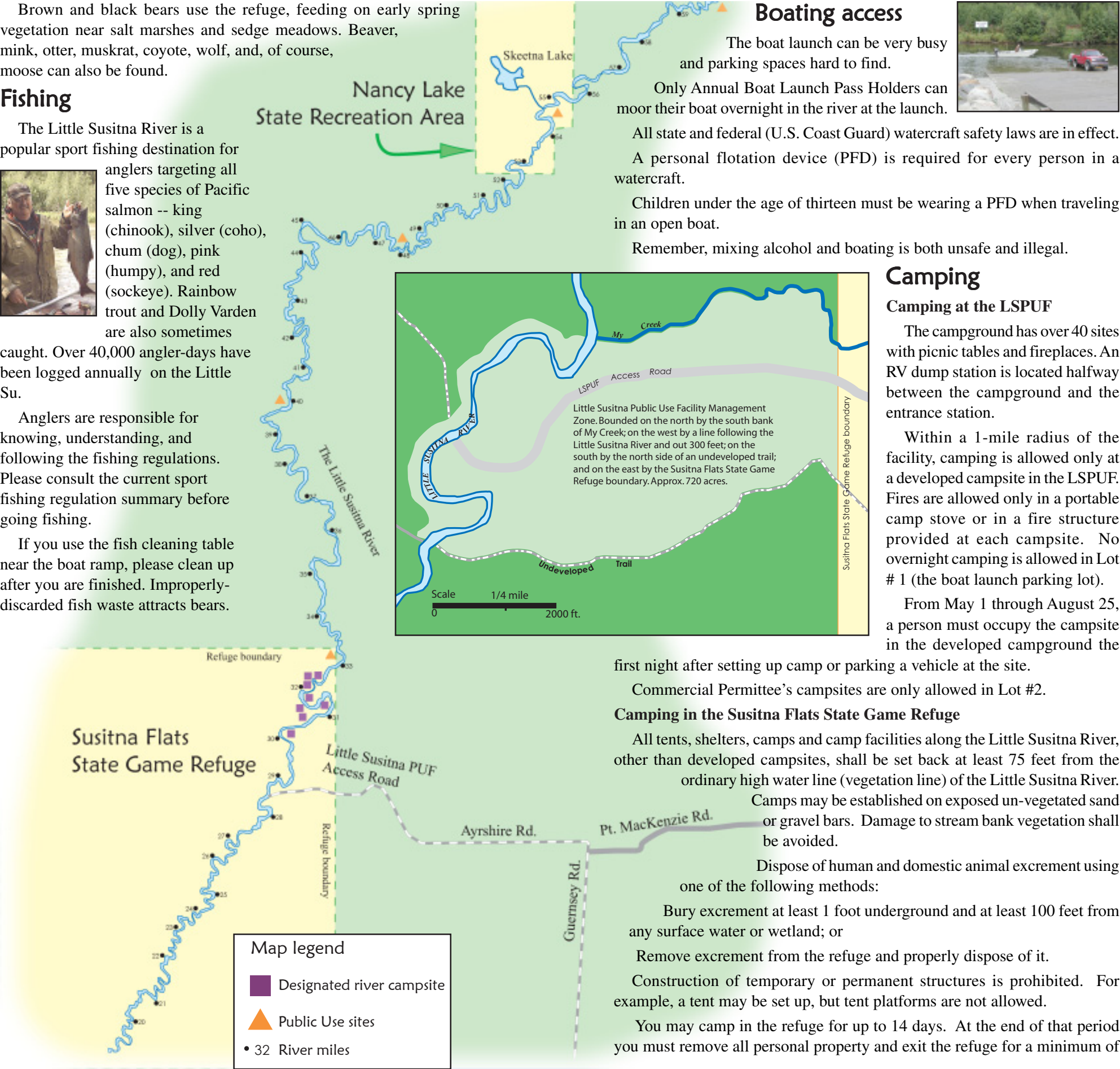
Brown and black bears use the refuge, feeding on early spring vegetation near salt marshes and sedge meadows. Beaver, mink, otter, muskrat, coyote, wolf, and, of course, moose can also be found.

Fishing

The Little Susitna River is a popular sport fishing destination for anglers targeting all five species of Pacific salmon -- king (chinook), silver (coho), chum (dog), pink (humpy), and red (sockeye). Rainbow trout and Dolly Varden are also sometimes caught. Over 40,000 angler-days have been logged annually on the Little Su.

Anglers are responsible for knowing, understanding, and following the fishing regulations. Please consult the current sport fishing regulation summary before going fishing.

If you use the fish cleaning table near the boat ramp, please clean up after you are finished. Improperly-discarded fish waste attracts bears.



Boating access

The boat launch can be very busy and parking spaces hard to find.

Only Annual Boat Launch Pass Holders can moor their boat overnight in the river at the launch.

All state and federal (U.S. Coast Guard) watercraft safety laws are in effect. A personal flotation device (PFD) is required for every person in a watercraft.

Children under the age of thirteen must be wearing a PFD when traveling in an open boat.

Remember, mixing alcohol and boating is both unsafe and illegal.



Camping

Camping at the LSPUF

The campground has over 40 sites with picnic tables and fireplaces. An RV dump station is located halfway between the campground and the entrance station.

Within a 1-mile radius of the facility, camping is allowed only at a developed campsite in the LSPUF. Fires are allowed only in a portable camp stove or in a fire structure provided at each campsite. No overnight camping is allowed in Lot # 1 (the boat launch parking lot).

From May 1 through August 25, a person must occupy the campsite in the developed campground the

first night after setting up camp or parking a vehicle at the site.

Commercial Permittee’s campsites are only allowed in Lot #2.

Camping in the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge

All tents, shelters, camps and camp facilities along the Little Susitna River, other than developed campsites, shall be set back at least 75 feet from the ordinary high water line (vegetation line) of the Little Susitna River. Camps may be established on exposed un-vegetated sand or gravel bars. Damage to stream bank vegetation shall be avoided.

Dispose of human and domestic animal excrement using one of the following methods:

Bury excrement at least 1 foot underground and at least 100 feet from any surface water or wetland; or

Remove excrement from the refuge and properly dispose of it.

Construction of temporary or permanent structures is prohibited. For example, a tent may be set up, but tent platforms are not allowed.

You may camp in the refuge for up to 14 days. At the end of that period you must remove all personal property and exit the refuge for a minimum of



three days (72 hours). If you fail to remove your property it may be impounded and you may be prosecuted.

Camping visitors must avoid attracting bears and other wildlife. Collect and burn trash to ashes at your campsite daily. Store food and non-burnable garbage in airtight predator-proof containers and physically remove garbage to an appropriate disposal site as soon as practical.

Do not leave campfires unattended.

There shall be no interference with public use of state lands and waters in the refuge.

There shall be no soliciting business, advertising, fee collection, or selling of any goods or services while on state lands within the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge, without the prior written approval of ADF&G.

All persons shall be responsible for the full repair of all damage caused by their use of the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge, other than ordinary wear and tear.

Use of developed campsites along the river is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please use the tent platforms provided when available.

### Parking and traffic

Park only in designated parking areas or overflow parking areas.

Do not leave unattached trailers in Lot # 1, the boat launch parking lot.

Overflow boat launching/day use parking is allowed along the upward direction portion of the road between Lot # 1 and the camping area access road. No unattached trailers are allowed along this overflow parking road area.

Unattached trailers are allowed only in Lot # 2 and Lot # 3.

PLEASE NOTE: The registered owner of a vehicle at the public use facility is responsible for any fees incurred by that vehicle.

Users of the public use facility shall comply with all traffic control signs posted in the facility.

### Firearms

No person may use or discharge a firearm in the LSPUF.

### State property/natural objects

Vegetation and natural objects (rocks, trees, plants) provide important habitat for waterfowl, fish, and mammals. Vegetation overhanging water shades juvenile fish from the hot sun, and provides them shelter.



With this in mind, no person may disturb, damage, deface, or remove any state property, facility, sign, or natural object, unless the vegetation is down and dead, except that within 100 feet of the Little Susitna River, there shall be no cutting of **any** woody vegetation, including down or dead trees.

In some areas, the habitat has become damaged and is undergoing restoration. Do not disturb habitat restoration sites. Disturbances include walking on and/or standing on vegetation, and tying boats to vegetation.

### Pets

From May 1 through August 25, all pets must be on a leash and under control by a person at all times. The pet owner is responsible for any noise, safety hazards, or unsanitary conditions caused by the animal.

### Litter/refuse

Do not litter. Please place all garbage or refuse in the proper receptacles.

### Special Use Permits

Any public assembly larger than 20 people in the public use facility requires a special area permit. [Contact ...](#)

### Cautions

The river currents are swift and the water is cold. Cold water can cause HYPOTHERMIA. Hypothermia is the lowering of the body core temperature. After just a few minutes in cold water, self-rescue becomes difficult. Most boating fatalities in Alaska are due to hypothermia related drowning.

Bears (both black and brown bears) also frequent the area and are attracted to the fish and fish waste. Food-conditioned bears can be aggressive, and a danger to others. Bears conditioned to eating human food often return to a site again and again, and usually must be destroyed. Please use caution and keep a clean campsite.



*A fed bear is a dead bear!  
Keep a clean camp.*

### Enforcement of these rules and regulations

In addition to complying with the regulations summarized in this handout and posted at the LSPUF, your consideration and courtesy are also appreciated, and help contribute to everyone’s enjoyment of this corner of Alaska.

Several agencies, including Alaska State Parks and the Alaska State Troopers, cooperate to enforce the regulations pertaining to the LSPUF and the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge. Visitors are expected to know and understand all regulations. Violations can result in eviction, citations, and/or fines.

The full text of the facility regulations summarized in this handout can be found in the Alaska Administrative Code at 5 AAC 95.515(4).

### In case of emergency

Contact either the volunteer host in the campground or the park attendant at the entrance station. If they are unavailable, the nearest phone is on the outside of the grocery store on Point MacKenzie Road, five miles away.



Many of the boaters monitor CB radio channel 9 for emergencies.



# Little Susitna River Public Use Facility River Mile 28.5

Welcome to the  
Little Susitna Public Use Facility (LSPUF)  
located in the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge

## Boating access

*Boat launch, trailer parking.*



## Sport fishing

*Bank fishing for salmon, rainbow trout,  
Dolly Varden.*



## Camping

*40+ sites with picnic tables and  
fireplaces. Dump station available.*



## Wildlife

*Bears, waterfowl, and other wildlife*



*The Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks  
manages and operates the facility under contract to the Alaska  
Department of Fish and Game.  
The LSPUF is located in the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge.*